

## NEWS RELEASE STATE/FEDERAL DISASTER FIELD OFFICE JOINT INFORMATION CENTER



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS TO OPEN IN BREMERTON AND ABERDEEN

EVERETT. WA-Officials from the State of Washington and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will open disaster recovery centers (DRCs) in Bremerton and Aberdeen to assist individuals who suffered damage from the October 15-23 storms and flooding. The centers will be open from **10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m**. Anyone affected by the October storms may visit <u>either</u> DRC for assistance.

The centers will be located at:

**West Sound American Red Cross** 

811 Pacific Ave

## Bremerton, WA 98337

- Monday, Nov. 24
- Tuesday, Nov. 25
- Wednesday, Nov.26

**Grays Harbor Fire Dept. #2** 

November 18, 2003

DR1499: PR 012

6317 Olympic Hwy Central Park

Aberdeen, WA 98520

• Friday, Nov. 28

(One day only)

The centers will be staffed with specialists to answer questions and provide recovery information and written materials about various assistance programs available to homeowners, renters and non-agricultural business owners.

Some disaster programs include housing assistance and other needs assistance programs, and low interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for individuals and non-agricultural businesses of all sizes. These are three of several planned recovery centers to serve those affected by the October storms.

Individuals who have been affected by the disaster are urged to call FEMA's toll-free number at **1-800-621-FEMA** (**3362**) before visiting a DRC to simplify and speed up the registration process. Hearing and speech impaired individuals may call TTY at 1-800-462-7585.

On March 1, 2003, FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. FEMA's continuing mission within the new department is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates proactive mitigation activities, trains first responders, and manages the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration.

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